

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, favorable reconsideration in this application is respectfully requested. Claims 4-7, 9, 11, 21, 32-35, and 39-43 have been cancelled and new claims 44-45 added by this Amendment.

The Examiner rejects claims 1 and 4-43 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Lynde (Patent No. 6,181,302).

The claims have been amended to recite features not taught or suggested by Lynde. For instance, with respect to claims 1 and 22, a person of skill in the art could not deduce the invention based on the teachings of Lynde. The advantages of the claimed invention come from the fact that geographical and pictorial data are supplied at different scales and the invention links annotations obtained at one scale with annotations obtained at other scales. For this purpose, a linked pyramid representation of annotations can be used. In which every annotation ha offspring at a finer scale and ancestors at a coarser scale. Offspring of an annotation are more detailed annotations of a geographical object, and an ancestor of an annotation is a common annotation of several geographic objects. Some annotations may originate only at sufficiently fine scale, as corresponding features may note be recognizable at coarser scales.

In addition, since Lynde discloses the use of binoculars, the elements are not selectable (claim 36). Lynde also does not teach the use of visual cues (claim 38).

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Support for the amendments is found in the specification as follows: the changes to claim 1 are supported by at least paragraphs 0034 and 0035, the changes to claim 36 are supported by at least paragraph 0050, the changes to claim 38 are supported by at least paragraph 0047, claim 44 is supported by at least paragraphs 0035 and 0063, and claim 45 is supported by at least paragraph 0004. Accordingly, no new matter is submitted.

In the event there are any questions relating to this Amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (123593.00106). In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not

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accompany this response, Applicants hereby petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

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